

CITY OF SALEM
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
October 19, 2020 – 6:00 PM

- I. **Call to Order**
- II. **Prayer and Pledge of Allegiance**
- III. **Presentation of Petitions/Public Comments**
- IV. **Mayor’s Report and Presentations**

- V. **City Council Action**
 - 1. Consent Agenda
 - a. City Council Minutes – request approval for 10-5-2020 minutes
 - 2. Review of Planning Commission items for action
 - a. Special Use Permit for Home Day Care for Ryan and Alyssa Meador at 150 Woodland Dr.
 - b. Special Use Permit for placement of a double-wide mobile home on a fixed foundation on South College Street.
 - c. Re-zoning request for property at 515 E. McMackin Street to convert to Multi-family use.
 - 3. Second Reading – Property Tax Levy proposal
 - a. Request to adopt the 2021 property tax levy in the amount of 2.50%
 - b. Request to abate bond levy from 2015 for Waste Water Treatment plant
 - c. Request to abate bond levy from 2017 for General Obligation Bond
 - 4. Review of Sign Ordinance
 - 5. Request for deer population control measures
 - 6. Request for Glass G liquor license
 - 7. Request to extend the time frame for local restaurants to provide outdoor seating through December 31, 2020
 - 8. Review of accounts payable

- VI. **City Manager Report with Department head updates**
- VII. **City Attorney Report**
- VIII. **City Council Members Report**
- IX. **Motion to Adjourn**

Rex A. Barbee
City Manager
RAB

Quote of the day –

Leaders are made, they are not born. They are made by hard effort, which is the price which all of us must pay to achieve any goal that is worthwhile. - Vince Lombardi.

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2. The Salem Planning Commission met on October 13 to review three items on their agenda. Two items received approval, those being
 - a. A request for a Special Use – Home Day Care permit for Ryan and Alyssa Meador at 150 Woodland Dr., for up to 8 children including the owners two children.
 - b. A request for a Special Use Permit for Don Dallas, to place a double wide mobile home on a fixed foundation with a pitched roof on Lots 5 and 6 of Precious Acres Subdivision directly south of 1444 S. College St.
Recommending approval of both of these Special Use Permits and would ask for separate motions for each action.
 - c. The Commission also reviewed a request for a zoning amendment relating to the proposed purchase of the Salem Free Methodist Church located at 515 E. McMackin St. This property is at the corner of South Marion and East McMackin Streets. The congregation of the church has reduced to less than 20 members and the church has a limited time frame to sell the house before the church conference would step in to take possession of the grounds and attempt to sell the property. The zoning request was to take the property from RS-2 Single Family residential to RM-2 multi-family residential in order to convert the church building into apartments. The commission heard from the proposed buyer representative, Whitney Purcell, who represented Purcell Properties, LLC. There were 20 people in attendance at the meeting. Gary Purcell provided a signed petition with opposition to the re-zoning coming from neighbors around the property. After hearing both sides of the proposal, the commission had a split vote 3 for and 3 against rezoning the property. Council can take action to approve or deny the rezoning request.
3. Second reading – Each year the City of Salem provides a request for additional funding through the property tax levy. The City can ask for a maximum of 4.99% without the requirement of a public hearing.
 - a. This year the City is reducing our request to a recommendation of 2.50%.
 - b. We are proposing to abate a 2015 bond levy for improvements to the Waste Water Treatment Plant
 - c. We are also proposing the abatement of the 2017 levy for a General Obligation Bond. These two levies are currently being paid for out of the ½ cent sales tax revenue and the income from these two tax levies are not required for the coming year. Requesting separate approvals of the levy request for 2.5% and for the abatements for the Waste Water Treatment Bond of 2015 and the General Obligation Bonds, series 2017 through a new ordinance and resolutions
4. Resident Brock Waggoner had approached the Council at it's last meeting regarding his viewpoint that the existing political sign ordinance that restricts the size of a political sign in a residential setting to be no larger than eight square feet in size is unconstitutional and violates his right to free speech. The sign size limitation is not content based. He is asking that the sign ordinance be amended to remove the size limitation.

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5. We have received complaints from two residents along Hawthorn Road about the deer population in the area and they are requesting that the population be reduced. The complainant's issues include that the deer are foraging on their flowering plants and coming up on their back porches and exhibiting signs of aggression around people. There are provisions in the State Law that allow the City to change a current code on hunting and trapping within the City Limits that could be utilized to reduce the size of the herd during the regular deer hunting season that runs through mid-January for archery permits. Current City ordinance does not allow hunting or trapping other than by the Animal Control Officer. Our Code enforcement officer, David Lusch has spoken with IDNR biologist, John Bunnell to see what actions could be allowed within the law. Requesting discussion on the matter with action possible. Code Enforcement Officer Dave Lusch will be present to provide additional insight.

6. We have received an application for a Class G liquor license for the Days Inn located at 1812 W. Main Street in Salem. This is the former Holiday Inn building across from Schmidt Ford. The business is looking to bring in another restaurant for the former Denny's portion and Duo's lounge but the license is being requested primarily to allow them to apply for a gaming license to generate more revenue. They had applied about a year ago and were denied. There are no Class G licenses available at this time and the Council would need to vote to increase the number of licenses in order to approve their request.

7. In response to Governor Pritzker's "Restore Illinois" initiative relating to the COVID-19 pandemic, the City Council had provided an ordinance allowing local restaurants and bars the ability to offer temporary seating and dining outside of their normal brick and mortar footprint as part of the Phase 3 on May 26th, 2020. Our area has since been moved to Phase 4 of the 5 Phase plan which allows for some indoor dining on a limited basis. The time frame on the ordinance from May 26th has expired. I am requesting permission to extend the temporary outdoor seating and dining resolution #2020-03 at local restaurants and bars through December 31, 2020. If approved a new resolution would be enacted.

8. Accounts payables for the period of Sept. 21 through October 16, 2020 are provided for your review. Request approval.